

Water, Energy, And Waste:
Integrating Themes of Sustainability Into Your Classroom
Summer 2015
2nd Grade/ Bilingual ICT
Danielson Competencies: Domain 3: Instruction
3c Engaging students in learning

Standards:

R.I.2.1. Ask and answer questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

W.2.1. Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.

Science Standard:

2.1. Analysis, Inquiry and Design: Scientific Inquiry

Unit Goals:

Sustainability Goal: To foster, within my students, a strong sense of self, responsibility and care for the world they live in.

Science Goals: Students will acquire knowledge and awareness about the environmental issues that Our Planet faces and how they can help to protect our Planet by reducing and recycling waste.

Literacy Goals: Students will identify the main idea and details in nonfiction texts. Students will write letters to other second graders persuading them to join them in reducing waste in their classroom.

Lesson Plan

Students Learning Objective: Students will be able to classify the different kinds of trash.

Language Objective: Students will identify English and Spanish Cognates.

Activity 1 “ If you can smash it, You can trash it!”

Materials: Classroom garbage can filled with trash items, latex gloves.

1. A garbage can will be selected from the classroom. This can will have a day's worth of trash to be analyzed.
2. Garbage will be dumped out on the newspaper on the table. Class will be divided into groups. Children will come up and choose an item for their group. Children will use latex gloves.
3. Children will analyze their item by answering the following questions:

- a) Could this item have been recycled instead of thrown in the trash?
- b) Could this item have been composted instead of thrown in the trash?
- c) Could it have been prevented from ever entering the waste stream?
- d) Could this item have been reused in some creative way instead of thrown in the trash? If so, how? Children will be encouraged to think imaginatively about what else the item could have been used for.

4. Students will report on their items. If their item was not recyclable, compostable, or reusable in some creative way, children will return the item to the trash can again. When all the children have reported, have them look in the trash can and compare to its original contents?

5. Conclusion: Children will discuss about waste, resource use, landfills, incinerators, etc. and ask them to consider if and how they might reduce their own trash .

Formative Assessments:

Teacher's observations

Students' Science Journal

Teacher Made Rubric

